

Amendments to the Claims

1-54 (Cancelled)

55. (Previously presented). A multifunctional electronic palmtop computer of the type which comprises, in a single box-like body, a keyboard, a display, a CPU, working storage and mass storage, a printer and a PCMCIA card interface, further comprising a protective cover for said interface which is provided with locking means adapted to prevent direct accessibility to said interface, said cover requiring the intervention of a tool to release said means so as to allow access to said interface, and wherein said locking means are actuated, on mutually opposite sides, by buttons, each button comprising a first component and a second component which are operatively coupled and are respectively arranged externally and internally with respect to a wall of said cover, said second component having a hook which abuts elastically against a retainer which protrudes rigidly from said body, said hook being disengageable from said retainer in contrast with an elastic means by virtue of a pressure applied by a user on said first component and transmitted to said second component.

56. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 55, wherein once one of the sides of said cover is rested against an edge of its seat, said cover can slide until it couples by snap action to the portion of the profile of said seat that constitutes said retainer and lies below it.

57. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 56, wherein a grub is inserted in said first component, on the outward-looking face; a seat for a pin is formed diametrically in said grub and an opening is formed in said wall of said cover which is interposed between said first and second components of the button, said opening forming cutouts for at least partially accommodating the ends of said pin, said pin being adapted to rotate rigidly with said grub in order to reach a specific position in which, by at least partially inserting its ends in said cutouts by virtue of a pressure applied to said first component, said pressure can be transmitted to said second component in contrast with said elastic means so as to disengage said hook from said retainer.

58. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 57, wherein said grub has, on the face that remains on the outside, a slot in which it is possible to insert the point of said tool so as to turn it in order to orientate said pin.

59. (Previously presented) The computer according to the claim 58, wherein said elastic means is a fork-shaped flat spring which is interposed between a partition that lies inside said cover and

said second component.

60. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 59, wherein a longitudinal hollow is formed in said second component on the side directed toward said internal partition, said hollow partially accommodating said flat spring.

61. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 60, wherein a tab protrudes from the inward face of said first component and is adapted to be inserted in a complementarily shaped seat formed in said second component on the opposite side with respect to said longitudinal hollow, said opening formed in the wall of the cover that is interposed between said first component and said second component being provided with said cutouts for the ends of said pin and being crossed by said tab.

62. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 61, wherein a cantilevered tooth protrudes from one end of said first component and has two parallel protrusions which constitute retention elements which can be inserted in a complementarily shaped seat formed in a corresponding end of said second component.

63. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 55, wherein said cover comprises means for preventing said PCMCIA cards from accidentally sliding out of the interface.

64. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 63, wherein said means for preventing accidental sliding comprise at least one raised portion which protrudes inside said cover and is adapted to ensure mechanical abutment against said PCMCIA cards.

65. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 55, wherein an opening is formed in said cover and a connector for connection to said PCMCIA card interface can be inserted through it.

66. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 65, wherein said opening is protected by a rubber plug.

67. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 66, wherein said plug is provided with a protrusion which is rigidly fixed to said cover.

68. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 67, wherein said plug is externally provided with a raised grip portion.

69. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 55, comprising a read/write device for microchip cards, which is arranged on the lower face of the body and can be accessed through a slot which has a flexible flap which can be folded only during the insertion of one of said

microchip cards.

70. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 69, comprising a further read/write device for microchip cards of the type known as SIM format, said device being arranged in the part below the power supply battery pack, being protected by a cover and having a connector which is shaped complementarily for the insertion of said SIM-format card.

71. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 55, comprising a seat which is adapted to contain a stylus to be used for said display, said seat being formed in the cover of said printer.

72. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 55, comprising a paper containment compartment and a printer, said compartment alternatively containing a roll of paper supported by a roll holder or a pack of continuous paper.

73. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 72, comprising said roll holder has a U-shaped structure which comprises a pivot provided, at its ends, with a fixed arm and with an arm which can fold by means of a film hinge.

74. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 73, wherein said arms of the roll holder are flat.

75. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 55, comprising a cellular telephone.

76. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 75, wherein said cellular telephone is of the type known as GSM and comprises an electronic board which is arranged laterally to said paper containment compartment at the lower part of said body, said board being arranged vertically.

77. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 76, wherein said cellular telephone comprises an antenna which is connected to said electronic board and is arranged laterally with respect to said paper containment compartment, in a forward position with respect to said board.

78. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 55, comprising a satellite positioning system.

79. (Previously presented) The computer according to claim 78, wherein said satellite positioning system comprises an electronic board which is arranged laterally with respect to said paper containment compartment at the lower part of said body, said board being arranged vertically.

80.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 79, wherein said satellite positioning system comprises a receiving antenna which is connected to said electronic board and is arranged in the front part of said body below said paper containment compartment.

81.(Previously presented) A multifunctional electronic palmtop computer of the type which comprises, in a single box-like body, a keyboard, a display, a CPU, working storage and mass storage, a printer and a PCMCIA card interface, further comprising a protective cover for said interface which is provided with locking means adapted to prevent direct accessibility to said interface, said cover requiring the intervention of a tool to release said means so as to allow access to said interface, wherein an opening is formed in said cover and a connector for connection to said PCMCIA card interface can be inserted through it.

82.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 81, wherein said locking means are actuated, on mutually opposite sides, by buttons, each button comprising a first component and a second component which are operatively coupled and are respectively arranged externally and internally with respect to a wall of said cover, said second component having a hook which abuts elastically against a retainer which protrudes rigidly from said body, said hook being disengageable from said retainer in contrast with an elastic means by virtue of a pressure applied by a user on said first component and transmitted to said second component.

83.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 82, wherein once one of the sides of said cover is rested against an edge of its seat, said cover can slide until it couples by snap action to the portion of the profile of said seat that constitutes said retainer and lies below it.

84.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 83, wherein a grub is inserted in said first component, on the outward-looking face; a seat for a pin is formed diametrically in said grub and an opening is formed in said wall of said cover which is interposed between said first and second components of the button, said opening forming cutouts for at least partially accommodating the ends of said pin, said pin being adapted to rotate rigidly with said grub in order to reach a specific position in which, by at least partially inserting its ends in said cutouts by virtue of a pressure applied to said first component, said pressure can be transmitted to said second component in contrast with said elastic means so as to disengage said hook from said retainer.

85.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 84, wherein said grub has, on the face that remains on the outside, a slot in which it is possible to insert the point of said tool so as to turn it in order to orientate said pin.

86.(Previously presented) The computer according to the claim 85, wherein said elastic means is a fork-shaped flat spring which is interposed between a partition that lies inside said cover and said second component.

87.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 86, wherein a longitudinal hollow is formed in said second component on the side directed toward said internal partition, said hollow partially accommodating said flat spring.

88.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 87, wherein a tab protrudes from the inward face of said first component and is adapted to be inserted in a complementarily shaped seat formed in said second component on the opposite side with respect to said longitudinal hollow, said opening formed in the wall of the cover that is interposed between said first component and said second component being provided with said cutouts for the ends of said pin and being crossed by said tab.

89.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 88, wherein a cantilevered tooth protrudes from one end of said first component and has two parallel protrusions which constitute retention elements which can be inserted in a complementarily shaped seat formed in a corresponding end of said second component.

90.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 81, wherein said cover comprises means for preventing said PCMCIA cards from accidentally sliding out of the interface.

91.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 90, wherein said means for preventing accidental sliding comprise at least one raised portion which protrudes inside said cover and is adapted to ensure mechanical abutment against said PCMCIA cards.

92.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 81, wherein said opening is protected by a rubber plug.

93.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 92, wherein said plug is provided with a protrusion which is rigidly fixed to said cover.

94.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 93, wherein said plug is externally provided with a raised grip portion.

94.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 81, comprising a read/write device for microchip cards, which is arranged on the lower face of the body and can be accessed through a slot which has a flexible flap which can be folded only during the insertion of one of said microchip cards.

95.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 94, comprising a further read/write device for microchip cards of the type known as SIM format, said device being arranged in the part below the power supply battery pack, being protected by a cover and having a connector which is shaped complementarily for the insertion of said SIM-format card.

96.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 81, comprising a seat which is adapted to contain a stylus to be used for said display, said seat being formed in the cover of said printer.

97.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 81, comprising a paper containment compartment and a printer, said compartment alternatively containing a roll of paper supported by a roll holder or a pack of continuous paper.

98.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 97, comprising said roll holder has a U-shaped structure which comprises a pivot provided, at its ends, with a fixed arm and with an arm which can fold by means of a film hinge.

99.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 98, wherein said arms of the roll holder are flat.

100.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 81, comprising a cellular telephone.

101.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 100, wherein said cellular telephone is of the type known as GSM and comprises an electronic board which is arranged laterally to said paper containment compartment at the lower part of said body, said board being arranged vertically.

102.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 101, wherein said cellular telephone comprises an antenna which is connected to said electronic board and is arranged laterally with respect to said paper containment compartment, in a forward position with respect to said board.

103.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 81, comprising a satellite positioning system.

104.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 103, wherein said satellite positioning system comprises an electronic board which is arranged laterally with respect to said paper containment compartment at the lower part of said body, said board being arranged vertically.

105.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 104, wherein said satellite positioning system comprises a receiving antenna which is connected to said electronic board and is arranged in the front part of said body below said paper containment compartment.

106.(Previously presented) A multifunctional electronic palmtop computer of the type which comprises, in a single box-like body, a keyboard, a display, a CPU, working storage and mass storage, a printer and a PCMCIA card interface, further comprising a protective cover for said interface which is provided with locking means adapted to prevent direct accessibility to said interface, said cover requiring the intervention of a tool to release said means so as to allow access to said interface, further comprising a paper containment compartment, said compartment alternatively containing a roll of paper supported by a roll holder or a pack of continuous paper.

107.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 106, wherein said locking means are actuated, on mutually opposite sides, by buttons, each button comprising a first component and a second component which are operatively coupled and are respectively arranged externally and internally with respect to a wall of said cover, said second component having a hook which abuts elastically against a retainer which protrudes rigidly from said body, said hook being disengageable from said retainer in contrast with an elastic means by virtue of a pressure applied by a user on said first component and transmitted to said second component.

108.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 107, wherein once one of the sides of said cover is rested against an edge of its seat, said cover can slide until it couples by snap action to the portion of the profile of said seat that constitutes said retainer and lies below it.

109.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 108, wherein a grub is inserted in said first component, on the outward-looking face; a seat for a pin is formed diametrically in said grub and an opening is formed in said wall of said cover which is interposed between said first and second components of the button, said opening forming cutouts for at least partially accommodating the ends of said pin, said pin being adapted to rotate rigidly with said grub in order to reach a specific position in which, by at least partially inserting its ends in said cutouts by virtue of a pressure applied to said first component, said pressure can be transmitted to said second component in contrast with said elastic means so as to disengage said hook from said retainer.

110.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 109, wherein said grub has, on the face that remains on the outside, a slot in which it is possible to insert the point of said tool so as to turn it in order to orientate said pin.

111.(Previously presented) The computer according to the claim 110, wherein said elastic means is a fork-shaped flat spring which is interposed between a partition that lies inside said cover and said second component.

112.(Previously presented). The computer according to claim 111, wherein a longitudinal hollow is formed in said second component on the side directed toward said internal partition, said hollow partially accommodating said flat spring.

113.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 112, wherein a tab protrudes from the inward face of said first component and is adapted to be inserted in a complementarily shaped seat formed in said second component on the opposite side with respect to said longitudinal hollow, said opening formed in the wall of the cover that is interposed between said first component and said second component being provided with said cutouts for the ends of said pin and being crossed by said tab.

114.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 113, wherein a cantilevered tooth protrudes from one end of said first component and has two parallel protrusions which constitute retention elements which can be inserted in a complementarily shaped seat formed in a corresponding end of said second component.

115.(Previously presented). The computer according to claim 106, wherein said cover comprises means for preventing said PCMCIA cards from accidentally sliding out of the interface.

116.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 115, wherein said means for preventing accidental sliding comprise at least one raised portion which protrudes inside said cover and is adapted to ensure mechanical abutment against said PCMCIA cards.

117.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 106, wherein an opening is formed in said cover and a connector for connection to said PCMCIA card interface can be inserted through it.

118.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 117, wherein said opening is protected by a rubber plug.

119.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 118, wherein said plug is provided with a protrusion which is rigidly fixed to said cover.

120.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 119, wherein said plug is externally provided with a raised grip portion.

121.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 106, comprising a read/write

device for microchip cards, which is arranged on the lower face of the body and can be accessed through a slot which has a flexible flap which can be folded only during the insertion of one of said microchip cards.

122.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 121, comprising a further read/write device for microchip cards of the type known as SIM format, said device being arranged in the part below the power supply battery pack, being protected by a cover and having a connector which is shaped complementarily for the insertion of said SIM-format card.

123.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 106, comprising a seat which is adapted to contain a stylus to be used for said display, said seat being formed in the cover of said printer.

124.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 106, comprising said roll holder has a U-shaped structure which comprises a pivot provided, at its ends, with a fixed arm and with an arm which can fold by means of a film hinge.

125.(Previously presented). The computer according to claim 124, wherein said arms of the roll holder are flat.

126.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 106, comprising a cellular telephone.

127.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 126, wherein said cellular telephone is of the type known as GSM and comprises an electronic board which is arranged laterally to said paper containment compartment at the lower part of said body, said board being arranged vertically.

128.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 127, wherein said cellular telephone comprises an antenna which is connected to said electronic board and is arranged laterally with respect to said paper containment compartment, in a forward position with respect to said board.

129.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 106, comprising a satellite positioning system.

130.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 129, wherein said satellite positioning system comprises an electronic board which is arranged laterally with respect to said paper containment compartment at the lower part of said body, said board being arranged vertically.

131.(Previously presented) The computer according to claim 130, wherein said satellite positioning system comprises a receiving antenna which is connected to said electronic board and is arranged in the front part of said body below said paper containment compartment.